

## Message Text

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ACTION NASA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-09 NSF-02 SOE-02 DOE-15  
DODE-00 PM-05 L-03 NSC-05 SS-15 /071 W  
-----086890 141136Z /12

P R 141020Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6983  
INFO SONDRESTROM AFB GREENLAND

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 5208

DEPARTMENT PASS NASA

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: XQ GL TGEN DA  
SUBJ: NASA SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROJECT IN GREENLAND - PROJECT #21

REF: A. NASA P 021635Z AUG 78 (NOTAL) B. STATE 190700 (NOTAL)  
C. COPENHAGEN 4808 (NOTAL) D. COPENHAGEN 4539 (NOTAL)

1. REF "C" OUTLINED COMMISSION FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN GREENLAND REQUIREMENTS WHICH MUST BE SATISFIED BEFORE APPROVAL OF NASA PROJECT 21 MAY BE GRANTED. THE COURSE OF ACTION PROPOSED IN REF "A" WILL NOT SATISFY THOSE REQUIREMENTS. THERE IS, APPARENTLY, A MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE CENTRAL ROLE OF THE COMMISSION WITHIN THE DANISH GOVERNMENT IN OBTAINING PROJECT CLEARANCES.

2. ONE OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION IS TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF US PROJECTS AFTER COORDINATION WITH VARIOUS AGENCIES IN THE DANISH GOVERNMENT. IN DOING SO, IT TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION THE EFFECT A PROJECT MIGHT HAVE ON THE GREENLAND POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT AND ON OTHER PROJECTS WHICH MAY BE PLANNED. IN CARRYING OUT THESE RESPONSIBILITIES, THE COMMISSION INSISTS THAT IT BE FULLY INFORMED IN DETAIL ON THE CONDUCT OF ANY EXPERIMENT AND THAT DANISH GOVERNMENT APPROVAL BE OBTAINED FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ROCKET LAUNCHERS ON DANISH TERRITORY OR THE  
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USE OF DANISH FACILITIES.

3. IT IS TRUE THAT THIS PROCESS WAS DISRUPTED BY THE STRIKE AT THE COMMISSION SECRETARIAT. BUT THAT STRIKE IS NOW OVER, AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING, AND THE EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES USED IN ORDER TO PREVENT DELAYS IN PROJECTS (GREENLAND MINISTRY LETTER OF JULY 11 TO EMBASSY DEFENSE ATTACHE - SEE REF "D"; GREENLAND MINISTRY

CABLE AND LETTERS TO NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION JUNE 30) ARE BEING REVIEWED. A FORMAL REPLY, CLEARED WITHIN THE DANISH GOVERNMENT, RESPONDING TO OUR SCIENTIFIC PROJECT REQUESTS, IS EXPECTED FROM THE DANISH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS THIS WEEK. IT WILL RESTATE DANISH RESERVATIONS ON PROJECT 21.

4. JORGEN JORGENSEN, THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION, AND JORGEN TAAGHOLT, DANISH SCIENTIFIC LIAISON OFFICER FOR GREENLAND AND A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION, CALLED AT THE EMBASSY LAST WEEK TO EXPRESS THEIR REGRET OVER THE MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND EXPLAIN AGAIN THE PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING APPROVAL OF SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS OUTLINED IN PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE. THEY EXPLAINED THAT ASMUSSEN (DANISH METEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE) DID NOT MEAN TO BE UNDERSTOOD AS SPEAKING FOR THE AIR POLLUTION LABORATORY WHEN HE STATED IN HIS LETTER OF APRIL 13 TO MR JONES OF NASA THAT THE METEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE COULDN'T PARTICIPATE IN THE PROJECT. (THIS WAS NOT CLEAR FROM ASMUSSEN'S LETTER. WE UNDERSTAND THE AIR POLLUTION LABORATORY MAY BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING.) NEITHER, THEY SAID, DID ASMUSSEN HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT. (THEY ALSO CONFESSED PUZZLEMENT OVER THE REFERENCE TO DR GEISS IN REF "A". BOTH SAID THEY DID NOT KNOW DR GEISS AND THAT DR GEISS HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH OBTAINING DANISH GOVERNMENT APPROVAL.) JORGENSEN AND TAAGHOLT REGRETTED THAT A NASA REPRESENTATIVE HAD NOT BEEN PRESENT AT THE COMMISSION MEETING IN MAY. THEN THESE PROCEDURES COULD HAVE BEEN CLARIFIED AND, POSSIBLY, COMMISSION APPROVAL FOR PROJECT 21 OBTAINED. NOW, THEY SAY,  
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COMMISSION APPROVAL IS CONTINGENT ON THE RECEIPT AND APPROVAL OF NASA PLANS FOR THIS PROJECT AND THIS WILL BE STATED IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S FORMAL REPLY WHICH WE EXPECT THIS WEEK (SEE PARA 3 ABOVE).

5. RECOMMENDATION: WE SUGGEST THAT NASA SUPPLY COMPLETE DETAILS ON PROJECT 21 TO THE COMMISSION FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN GREENLAND THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S POLAR AFFAIRS OFFICER VIA THIS EMBASSY. WE ARE PREPARED TO DO ALL WE CAN TO FACILITATE APPROVAL OF THIS PROJECT.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
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**Concepts:** RESEARCH, SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
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**Draft Date:** 14 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014